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Docket No.: 1029.1038

UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: Unknown

Applicant:

SPINA, Umberto, et al.

Serial No.:

10/599,133

Filed

September 20, 2006

For:

PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR THE ELECTROGALVANIC COATING OF METAL ITEMS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 September 22, 2006

Sir:

Pursuant to M.P.E.P. §609 and 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97-1.99, Applicants herewith submit form PTO-1449 (2 sheets), which lists references cited in the International Search Report (ISR) dated June 12, 2004 which Applicants are aware for the present application. An English translation for the foreign language documents (Ref. A7, A8 and A10) are not presently available. The Examiner is directed to the ISR comments concerning these documents. A copy of the ISR is attached hereto. It is noted that the Applicants have not enclosed a copy of the U.S. patent cited on form PTO-1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists. While the term "references" is used in citing the documents called to the Examiner's attention herein, Applicants do not make any admission that each or all of them are "prior art" references within the meaning of the statutory and case law.

Applicants reserve the right to contend, where appropriate, that a patent asserted against any claim of the present application is not prior art under the facts and the law.

Applicants also reserve the right to present appropriate arguments and/or evidence to establish patentability over the references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

Applicants request that the Examiner independently determine those items which the Examiner would consider the most pertinent of all the references cited herein.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application. Accordingly, this document complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97(b). It is respectfully requested that the references cited in the accompanying PTO-1449 form be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date of Deposit September 22, 2006

I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above, in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 LUCAS & MERCANTE, LLP

Carla Santos

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